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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/867,583	05/31/2001	Veselin Skendzic	08215-445001/P88-026136	6558

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VINH P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2829

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/867,583

Applicant(s)

SKENDZIC ET AL.

Examiner

VINH P NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/25/03.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-18,26,32-51,55-60 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-23,25,27-28,30-31,52-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 24,29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4. 6) ☐ Other: _____

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1. Applicant's election of in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).
2. It appears that the limitation of claim 26 is not read on elected species of figure 5.
3. Claims 1-18,26,32-51 and 55-60 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected , there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 6.
4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed
5. Claims 25,27-28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as Containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

It appears that the specification does not have support for the limitation of "a cut off frequency of the filter is set between approximately 1hertz and approximately 0.001 hertz" as recited in claim 25, the limitation of "a second input terminal connected to the ground" as recited in claim 27 and the limitation of "a surge protection device is connected between the current transformer and ground" as recited in claims 28 and 30.
6. Claims 25,27-28,30 and 52-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 25, it appears that the limitation of this claim is indefinite since the range for the cut off frequency is unclear and improperly claimed.

In claim 27, it appears that the limitation of "a second input terminal connected to the ground" is inaccurate because this second terminal is not directly connected to a ground .

In claims 28 and 30, it appears that the limitation of the surge protection device (555) is not accurate because it is not connected between the current transformer and ground.

In claim 52, it is unclear whether the voltage measuring means and the current measuring means are the current transformer. Furthermore, it is unclear what "means for measuring voltage in the primary high voltage conductor using the current transformer" and "means for measuring current in the primary high voltage conductor using the current transformer" represent. Are they shown in any of drawings?

The dependent claims not specifically address share the same indefiniteness as they depend from rejected base claims.

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 19-20,31 and 52-54 (insofar as understood) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilkerson (Pat # 4,914,383).

As to claims 19-20,31 and 52-54, Wilkerson discloses in figure 2 an apparatus having a current transformer (14,24,26) having a secondary winding (24,26) electromagnetically coupled to a high voltage conductor (12), a current measurement circuit (46) connected to the secondary winding of the transformer (14,24,26). According to Wilkerson, a voltage is generated within the secondary winding. Wilkerson does not monitor the voltage on the secondary winding.

However, Estes, Jr. teaches that it is well known to monitor the voltage at the secondary winding which is proportional to the current flowing through the conductor (1). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the teaching measuring the voltage at the secondary winding as taught by Estes, Jr. to the device of Wilkerson so that both voltage and current of the conductor on the secondary winding are analyzed simultaneously. It appears that the device of Wilkerson inherently including parasitic capacitive voltage divider having a first parasitic capacitance between the high voltage conductor ((12) and the secondary winding (24,26) and a parasitic second capacitance between the secondary winding and the core (14).

As to claims 21-22, Wilkerson does not teach that the core (14) of Wilkerson is connected to a reference potential (ground). However, it would have been well known that the core (14) of Wilkerson is inherently connected to a reference potential (ground).

As to claim 23, Wilkerson does not teach that the value for the second capacitance from approximately 0.001 micfarads to approximately 10 microfarads. However, it would have

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obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to adjust the position of the secondary winding and the transformer core in order to obtain such value since the value of this second capacitance depends on the gap size of the secondary winding and the core.

9. Claims 24 and 29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


The prior art does not disclose a drain resistor connected between the current transformer secondary winding and reference potential and the detailed of the voltage measurement circuit. as recited in claims 24 and 29.

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Arndt et al (Pat # 3,471,784) disclose a combination voltage and magnetic loop.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINH P. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-4914.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.


VINH P. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2829
05/02/03